

Dr. York's statement on financial crisis

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STATEMENT BY CHANCELLOR HERBERT F. YORK, MAY 27, 1971.

This campus is anticipating a financial aids crisis of major proportions next fall. At stake is a century-old California ideal -- that the University of California should be open to all students who are academically qualified, not just those who are financially able to afford it.

An increased enrollment of 1000 students, bringing UCSD's total to 6200 for next fall places increasing demands on federal, state and University sources for financial aid dollars. Despite existing budgetary stringencies, The Regents and the San Diego campus have recognized the need for new dollars and have increased allocations to financial aid by 25 percent. But the federal government has opted to reduce already inadequate resources by a whopping \$153,000.

Hardest hit by cutbacks are dollars for National Defense Loans (NDSL) and College Work-Study, both programs that allow students to earn their education. NDSL has been cut \$110,000, Work-Study \$55,000. Federal Educational Opportunity Grant monies were increased by a meager \$11,000 despite the fact that our approved need for new EOG money is \$130,000.

The critical point is that each of these programs required substantial increases to meet the financial needs of UCSD's 1000 new enrollees, one-third of whom will require significant financial assistance if they are to attend.

The state funding picture is almost as bleak -- "almost" because the million dollar allocation for the University Educational Opportunity Program for this year was vetoed by the Governor and zero dollars just cannot be cut. Recent reports suggest that the legislature may be willing to allocate something like one and one-half million in support of EOP for all UC campuses for 1971-72. Again, the threat of a Governor's veto hangs over this potential support.

Only two other state programs fund UC students and their effect on the total picture is minimal. Perhaps 8 percent of our students will receive part of their tuition and fees in the form of California State Scholarships but this amount does not begin to cover the cost of a year's attendance for a student as any college student's parents know. Less than one percent of our students receive support from the State of California Opportunity Grant Program.

All summed next year's financial aid dollars fall short of the need by one-half million dollars at UCSD alone.

The response of UCSD students to this financial crunch has been very special. Student registration fees will continue to be used to the maximum allowed to provide financial support for needy students. Through a special election now in progress, students are considering a proposal to assess themselves an additional fee for next year to raise another \$60,000 in scholarship funds to help alleviate the half-million-dollar shortfall. More importantly, hundreds of UCSD students are writing their state legislators, the Governor and their representatives and Senators in Washington urging their attention to our critical needs. They are asking their parents and friends to do the same. In short, they are taxing themselves and working through existing channels rather than shouting and throwing bricks.

I join them in hoping the system can be made to work to ease the crisis we face. The nature of the University as an institution open to all qualified students regardless of economic background depends on it.

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